

CLAIMS

We claim:

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1. A method for placing a subscriber's communication in a position with respect to a review of messages in a voice mail system (VMS), the method comprising:
- 10 A. in response to an indication from the subscriber's communication to leave the review, creating an identifier to mark the position of the subscriber's communication in the review;
- B. storing the identifier;
- 15 C. in response to notice indicating the subscriber's communication is to rejoin the review in the VMS, using the identifier to place the subscriber's communication in the position in the review,
- whereby a subscriber may interrupt the review of messages in the VMS and then return to the position in the review in the VMS.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the notice comprises a copy of the identifier; and wherein action C comprises using the copy of the identifier with the identifier to place the subscriber's communication in the position in the review.
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3. The method of Claim 1, wherein action A comprises, in response to the indication from the subscriber's communication to leave the review, providing a message indicating a release of the subscriber's communication.
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4. The method of Claim 3, wherein the message comprises a remote operations (RO) parameter including a copy of the identifier.
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5. The method of Claim 4, wherein the message comprises a GR-1129 message comprising the RO parameter including the copy of the identifier.

6. A method of enabling the placement of a subscriber's communication in a position in a review of messages in a voice mail system (VMS), the method comprising:

A. receiving a message indicating a VMS release of the subscriber's communication by the VMS, the message including a copy of an identifier marking the position of the subscriber's communication in the review of messages in the VMS;

B. storing the copy of the identifier; and

C. in response to receiving notice of a release of the subscriber's communication by a network element other than the VMS, directing the subscriber's communication to be routed to the VMS including the copy of the identifier.

7. The method of Claim 6, wherein the message comprises a remote operations (RO) parameter including the copy of the identifier.

8. The method of Claim 7, wherein the message comprises an GR-1129 message comprising the RO parameter including the copy of the identifier.

9. With respect to a position of a subscriber's communication in a review of messages in a voice mail system (VMS), a system for enabling the subscriber's communication to make a call, and after the call, to return to the position in the review of messages in the VMS, comprising:

5 the VMS being operative to transmit a message indicating at least a telephone number to which the call is to be directed, and the message including a copy of an identifier marking the position of the subscriber's communication in the review of messages in the VMS;

10 a service control point (SCP) operative to receive the message, and to cause the subscriber's communication to be terminated to an intelligent network element (INE) with the INE being provided with the telephone number;

15 the INE being operative, in response to termination of the subscriber's communication to the INE, to initiate an INE call to the telephone number, to bridge the subscriber's communication and the INE call to form the call, to monitor the call for a disconnect signal, and in response to the disconnect signal, to dismantle the bridge so as to disconnect the INE call and to release the subscriber's communication;

the SCP being further operative, in response to notice of release of the subscriber's communication by the INE, to cause the subscriber's communication to be routed to the VMS and to include the copy of the identifier; and

20 the VMS being further operative, in response to receipt of the subscriber's communication and the copy of the identifier, to use the copy of the identifier to return the subscriber's communication to the position in the review of messages in the VMS.

10. The system of Claim 9, wherein the message from the VMS comprises a remote operations (RO) parameter including the reply telephone number and the copy of the identifier.

11. The system of Claim 9, wherein the message comprises a remote operations (RO) parameter including the reply telephone number and the copy of the identifier.

~~Statement of Claim
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Year	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100
1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	